

**Advisory  
Council On  
Historic  
Preservation**

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The Old Post Office Building  
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, #809  
Washington, DC 20004

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DEC 28 1998

Mr. James A. Cheatham  
Division Administrator  
District of Columbia Division  
Federal Highway Administration  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
820 First Street NE  
Washington DC 20002

REF: Georgetown Historic District and C&O Canal Historical Park  
Washington, District of Columbia  
Reconstruction of Canal Road Entrance to Georgetown University  
FAP No. DE-0014(801)

Dear Mr. Cheatham:

The enclosed Memorandum of Agreement for the referenced project has been accepted by the Council. This acceptance completes the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Council's regulations. We recommend that you provide a copy of the fully-executed Agreement to the District of Columbia State Historic Preservation Officer.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 606-8528.

Sincerely,



Ralston Cox  
Historic Preservation Analyst  
Office of Planning and Review

Enclosure

Memorandum of Agreement

Improvements to the Canal Road Entrance of Georgetown University  
Washington, D.C.

Submitted to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation  
Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.6(a)

WHEREAS, the Federal Highway Administration Eastern Lands Highway Division (FHWA) has proposed to reconstruct the Canal Road entrance to Georgetown University to provide all directional movements for traffic entering and leaving the main academic campus; and

WHEREAS, Alternative 2/2A in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Section 4(f) Statement (DEIS) solicited comments from cooperating agencies (National Park Service - National Capital Region (NPS), District of Columbia - Department of Public Works (DCDPW), and National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC)), the Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (ANCs), and the public regarding the extent of impacts; and

WHEREAS, various alternatives were developed and evaluated following the publication of the DEIS and the Public Hearing. Alternative 2A Modified refined Alternative 2/2A in order to reduce impacts and the footprint of construction; and

WHEREAS, Alternative 2A Modified will have an adverse effect on the Georgetown Historic District and will considerably reduce impacts to the Palisades and bluffs surrounding the entrance as compared to Alternative 2/2A from the DEIS; and,

WHEREAS, Alternative 2A Modified will have an adverse effect on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Historic Park and will improve the façade of the C&O Canal wall adjacent to the widening of Canal Road near the Whitehurst Freeway and will maintain service vehicle access for the National Park Service to the C&O Canal Historic Park, and will have no effect on any other sites of historic, architectural, or archaeological significance; and,

WHEREAS, FHWA has consulted with the District of Columbia Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800, regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470f); and,

WHEREAS, FHWA has consulted with the National Park Service, National Capital Region, as a cooperating agency, steward and owner of much of the herein mentioned property; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the FHWA, SHPO, DCDPW, and NPS agree that the undertaking shall be implemented in accordance with the following stipulations in order to take into account the effect of the project on historic properties.

## STIPULATIONS

The FHWA will ensure that the following measures are carried out:

1. During the design phase, every effort will be made to reduce the heights of retaining walls which would further reduce visual impacts to the Palisades.
2. FHWA will develop a landscaping plan to screen visual impacts and to design a pedestrian friendly atmosphere.
3. FHWA will develop an appropriate façade treatment of the Canal Road retaining wall at the Whitehurst Freeway entrance, and of the cap to the wall of the C&O Canal wall to better define the edge of the historic park by improving the visual and structural appearance of both walls.

Execution of this Memorandum of Agreement by FHWA, SHPO, DCDPW, and NPS, and its subsequent acceptance by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (Council), and implementation of its terms, is evidence that FHWA has afforded the Council an opportunity to comment on the Improvements to the Canal Road Entrance of Georgetown University project and its effects on historic properties, and that FHWA has taken into account the effects of the undertaking on historic properties.

By: [Signature] Date: 11/16/98  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
District of Columbia

By: [Signature] Date: 12/24/98  
Executive Director  
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

By: [Signature] Date: 11-9-98  
Regional Director, National Capital Region  
National Park Service

By: [Signature] Date: 11-3-98  
Director  
District of Columbia Department of Public Works

By: [Signature] Date: 9/21/98  
Division Engineer  
Federal Highway Administration, Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division

By: [Signature] Date: 10 Sept '98  
for Division Administrator  
Federal Highway Administration, D. C. Division